

REMARKS

Claim Rejections under 35 USC 112

Claims 1-6 and 9-11 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 112, second paragraph, as being indefinite for failing to particularly point out and distinctly claim the subject matter which applicant regards as the invention.

The limitation in claims 1 and 9 reciting "receiving predetermined character strings transmitted from predetermined character strings" contains a clerical error. It should read "receiving predetermined character strings transmitted from the mail server." Applicants have amended claims 1 and 9 to correct the error.

Claim Rejections – 35 U.S.C. § 103

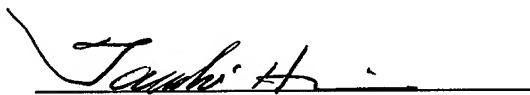
The rejection of claims 1-11 under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a) as being unpatentable over Lee et al. (US 6,661,877) in view of De Mendonca (WO 03/003263 is respectfully traversed.

As the Examiner indicates in the Office Action, Lee fails to teach "when receiving predetermined character strings transmitted from the mail server, storing, in accordance with an e-mail processing program by the mail client in a nonvolatile memory, an e-mail transmitted from the mail server." Since Lee fails to teach the limitation, the present invention should not be obvious over Lee.

The Examiner takes the position that the missing element is disclosed in De Mendonca. De Mendonca is a PCT application filed on June 28, 2002 designating the United States. The present application claims priority back to Japanese Application No. 2002-178535 filed on June 19, 2002. Therefore, De Mendonca does not qualify as prior art against the present application. To perfect the priority based on the Japanese application, Applicants herewith submit a certified translation of Japanese Patent Application No. 2002-178535.

Applicants respectfully submit that the claimed invention is neither anticipated by nor would have been obvious in view of Lee and De Menonca, individually or in combination. Accordingly, withdrawal of this ground of rejection is respectfully requested.

Respectfully submitted,

A handwritten signature in cursive script, appearing to read "Tadashi Horie", is written over a horizontal line.

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